



commissie justitia et pax nederland

A Paz è Possivel em Timor-Leste
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den haag, June 24, 1985

Dear Jean Pierre,

Thank you for your letter of June 20, which contained valuable information. Let me first tell you about our plans to organize a meeting on East-Timor this year. We have decided just this afternoon to go on with it. The consultation is meant for church-oriented organizations in Europe, working on East-Timor, and will have an informal and private character. We think of some 25 people. The meeting will be held on Oktober 25 and 26, in Holland. If possible we would like to invite Mgr. Da Costa Lopez too. Perhaps you can judge whether this is possible? Or perhaps you can sound him about this? During the meeting an accent will be laid on how to bring East-Timor back on the agenda in Geneva again. Adrien Zöllner must be present of course. Furthermore we think of representatives of CIIR, Justice and Peace France, Pro Mundi Vita, your own organization, Amnesty etc. In principle we ask the guests to pay their trip themselves. Their stay in Holland will be on our budget. About the meeting itself: the plans are of course not very concrete. But it seems necessary in any case to put our hands together and try to stimulate and coordinate each others activities.

The financial aid for Luisa Pereira, I regret to say, is still very uncertain. We have written twice to Australia, to Chris Sidoti, to ask him for this subsidy, which he more or less had promised. But there was a failure in communication. Clearly our letter had not reached him. The last two months we did not get to go into this matter again. But now we will send a telex to ask him again. I hope it will have a positive effect, and we can contact you soon about it.

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In Holland, as elsewhere in the world of course, the East-Timor campaign of Amnesty has started yesterday. For the first time since long the papers had a big article on East-Timor. We ourselves made a press-report of the Statement of the Episcopal Council of Dili, which did not receive much attention. It seems that we have't got enough authority to get these things in the papers! Today a TV-programm telephoned us about it; they knew Belo was in Europe, and wanted to contact him. I gave them the number you wrote to me, saying they probably would not have a big chance of talking with him. We telephoned Robert Archer of CIIR about Belo's visit. He will meet Belo when he is in England, and he will of course inform us about it. He however was not very optimistic about the possibilities of a more or less open talk about the situation on Timor.

By the way, did you already know that there now is a French translation of the Pro Mundi Vita (our) East-Timor report? It can be obtained by writing to:

Echange France-Asie
26, Rue de Babylone
75007 PARIS
tel. 222.31.64.

With kind regards,

Patrick van 't Hooft
